

EXHIBIT

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Jan. 16, 2013

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Leon B. Hammond
UMWUA Project Manager
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(406) 220-2093
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January 14, 2013

To whom it may concern:

The Upper Musselshell Water User's Association (UMWUA) supports the Reclamation and Development Grant (RDG) application being submitted by the Deadman's Basin Water User's Association (DBWUA) for the replacement of the two radial arm headgates on their inlet canal diversion structure.

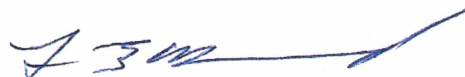
These headgates currently leak several cubic feet per second when completely closed. The ability to leave this water in the river system would be a significant step forward in management and conservation of water in the Musselshell River.

As water commissioner for the Musselshell River Distribution Project I have the responsibility of monitoring this diversion and recording the flows, both during times of purposeful diversion and also leakage when the gates are closed. If the leakage was eliminated the benefit of extra flows in the river would be felt all downstream from the diversion structure.

As the project manager for the Upper Musselshell Water User's Association I have a great understanding of the importance of infrastructure improvement to more effectively conserve our water resources. This project is a step in the right direction.

Your favorable consideration of this request would be appreciated.

Sincerely,



Leon B. Hammond
Project Manager

Musselshell Watershed Coalition

... benefiting water users and the river

by practicing basin-wide cooperative management

- Partners

Deadman's Basin Water
Users Association

Delphia-Melstone Canal
Water Users Association

Garfield County
Conservation District

Lower Musselshell
Conservation District

Mosby-Musselshell
Watershed Group

Petroleum County
Conservation District

Upper Musselshell
Conservation District

Upper Musselshell Water
Users Association

- Agencies

Montana Dept. of
Environmental Quality

Montana Dept. of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Montana Dept. of
Natural Resources
& Conservation

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

January 14, 2013

Subject: Replacement Headgate for Deadman's Basin Supply Canal

To Whom It May Concern:

The Musselshell Watershed Coalition (MWC), representing four Water Users Associations and four Conservation Districts operating along the entire main stem of the Musselshell River, strongly supports the DNRC-Water Resources Division application for an RRGL grant to replace the headgate in the inlet canal for Deadman's Basin Reservoir.

This infrastructure project is one of many that resulted from damages sustained during the devastating flood of 2011. The Headgate Project directly impacts water availability for 150 irrigators, and indirectly, over 250 irrigators, who rely on a stable water supply in the Musselshell River.

Thank you for consideration of our support.

Respectfully,



Bill Milton
MWC Facilitator

Bill Milton, Facilitator
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Donna Pedrazzi, District Administrator
Lower Musselshell Conservation District
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Roundup, MT 59072
406-323-2103
Donna.Pedrazzi@mt.nacdnet.net



Lower Musselshell Conservation District

109 Railway East
Roundup, Montana 59072

January 14, 2013

Subject: Replacement of Headgates for the Deadman's Basin Supply

Applicant: DNRC-WRD

To whom it may concern:

Lower Musselshell Conservation District provides information and support to landowners in Golden Valley and Musselshell Counties. In these counties, Deadman's Basin Water Users Association members depend on water delivery from the basin during low river flows, in order to provide best management practices on their farms and ranches. Around 30,000 acres are irrigated from stored water from the Deadman's Basin.

The flooding in 2011 caused damage to the headgate and adjoining infrastructure, which needs to be replaced in order to serve the needs of the irrigators.

Lower Musselshell Conservation strongly supports this project because of the benefit it will have for the irrigators and municipalities along the river.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Shirley Parrot, Supervisor and Vice Chairman

Lower Musselshell Conservation District

Delphia Melstone Canal Water Users Association

Melstone, Montana

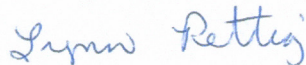
Lynn Rettig – Manager

January 14, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in regard to Deadman's Basin application to the DNRC for RRGL \$100,000 grant. Deadmans Basin is an essential part of the Musselshell River irrigation system. We at DMCWUA are highly dependent upon stored water that comes from Deadman's Basin. The Musselshell River rarely delivers natural flow water to our section of the River past the middle of June. It is then that we depend on stored water from Deadman's to supply our irrigators with essential irrigation water. Our dependence on Deadman's water cannot be overstated. To repair and keep the inlet head gate and diversion dam in good condition is primary for storing water and the ultimate health and conservation of water on the Musselshell River.

Lynn Rettig



Manager – Delphia Melstone Canal Water Users Association



MOSBY MUSSELHELL WATERSHED GROUP

Chairman-Lloyd Rowton
Watershed Coordinator-Cal Frank



January 11, 2013

Subject: Replacement Headgates for the Deadman's Basin Supply

To whom it may concern,

This is to inform you that the Mosby Musselshell Watershed Group fully supports the DNRC Water Resource Division's project for the headgate replacements for the Deadman's Basin water supply canal inlet. The MMWG are Musselshell Watershed Coalition partners with the Deadman's Basin Water Users Association. These types of projects are very important to the Musselshell River watershed in a whole because they help to preserve and protect the natural resource that we all greatly depend on. Water in this part of the state is very valuable and anything that be improved on for more efficient use of this water is a benefit to all of us.

Sincerely,

Cal Frank
Watershed Coordinator
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